

Amendments to the Specification

Please enter the following amendments to the specification. In, the following amendments, changes are shown with deletions in ~~striketrough~~ and additions underlined. The following amendments are made by way of replacement paragraphs.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 11 with the following replacement paragraph:

The optical fibers 40-70 may be bundled together (see Figures 1 and 5) to pass into region 20. As shown in Figure 7, this region may include an electronics module or box 700, or may be some other region different from region 30, as discussed above. The module 700 may include one or more repeaters, multiplexers, and/or other appropriate equipment-~~770~~, such as communications or data transmission equipment.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 7 with the following replacement paragraph:

As shown in Figure 7, an additional such sealed junction region may be coupled to the electronics modulus 700 to continue passage of the cable beyond the module. This will be a common configuration in a situation where the module 700 is not a terminal module or station, e.g., wherein it is a repeater in a communication system. Thus, tubes and seals corresponding ~~tube 740, tube 730, tube 750, and seal 760 correspond~~ to tubes 270, 720, 140 and seal 710, respectively ~~and can~~ include a structure similar to that shown in Figure 6, to form a junction region extending from module 700 back into the undersea environment, in which the cable extends to the next repeater station or other electronic equipment.